

AN INVESTOR'S ADVICE.

Mr. Horne Payne on the Opportunities and Prospects of Victoria and Vancouver.

What the Crow's Nest Railway Means for Coast Cities—Local Electric Enterprise.

An Interesting Invitation to Some Detractors Who Have Shown Strange Jealousy.

Mr. R. M. Horne-Payne speaking yesterday of the objects of the present visit of his party to British Columbia, gave at some length his views on the general prospects of Canada as a field for the investment of British capital. He said:

"Yes, we have had a most charming trip across. Ever since we left London on March 11 our friends have lived with each other in their hospitality and kindness, and it seems to me that from the time we left until now for we have even been allowed to pay for a meal or even a drink. Most of our party have lived and travelled in other parts of the Empire, and Mitchell-Innes's firm, as well as my own, have interests from one end of the Empire to the other, but I think we have all agreed that we have never struck any country where the laws of hospitality seem to be so much one of the real maxima as here, where a man seems to you almost before he shakes hands. It has made us feel more and more how little we are able to do for strangers when they come to the old country, and perhaps I should say how little people from this side will generally let us do, for I think every Englishman would be glad enough to do what he could for an Englishman coming from some other part of the Empire, if he could only find out what would be most pleasant to him. I find with regard to Canadians that they are doing the wretched habit of hiding themselves away and giving us little chance of doing anything to show them hospitality when they come over, and rarely letting us get an opportunity to do for them what they do for us over here.

"However, we shall all of us hope to get even with them sometime or other. Oh, yes, my firm have many interests besides their Canadian ones. I have personally had the good fortune to take up the Canadian end, but my partners are just as much interested in India, Australia and Africa, and I can scarcely persuade them how infinitely more pleasant my work is than theirs. The latest things that we have been connected with have been the Northern Railway of the South African Republic, of which the 4 per cent. bonds and shares are guaranteed by that government, the shareholders sharing with the government the profits after 4 per cent., and the Southern Punjab Railway Company 3 per cent. interest guaranteed by the Secretary of State for India, which is practically the same thing as the Imperial government. After the shareholders receive their 3 per cent. interest they divide the surplus profits with the government. The former of these enterprises we issued in April, 1895, and the latter was formed on July, 1895, and both give every indication of being great successes and are now in active course of construction. Canada was scarcely our first love. I believe we commenced acting as brokers for colonial enterprises in Bombay, India and Melbourne, Australia. I really don't know which came first; it was long before I was even a clerk in the firm.

"Well, I don't know exactly what to tell you about our trip more than I have done already. Yes, it has been a sort of triumphal progress, through the kindness of everybody and the railways in particular. We left London on March 11 in a beautiful special train, consisting of a dining car and two saloons, placed at our disposal by the London and Northwestern railway. We had quite an ovation at Euston and a dozen or more friends came to the train to give us a send off at Liverpool. We had a suite of charming rooms on the main deck of the Teutonic, which, next to the Majestic, I think the most delightful ship afloat, and arrived in New York on March 18. A day and a half in New York and then on to Montreal, where we passed a very enjoyable three weeks. We embarked on the car "Woodstock," lent us, together with baggage car, by the Canadian Pacific Railway, on April 7 and lived on the car that continuously for nearly three weeks, until we arrived in Vancouver on April 26. We stopped in Ottawa for three days and in Toronto for three days, and were taken charge of by the Grand Trunk Railway, who took us for a most delightful excursion to Niagara, and thence to North Bay to join the C.P.R. express. In order that we might see the Toronto Horse Show and also be saved some of the tedium of an ordinary railway journey, General Manager Hays kindly ran our cars special, and making a record on the northern division, leaving Toronto at 3:30 p.m. and getting to North Bay at 9:30 p.m. Mr. Hays, the general manager of the Grand Trunk, is a very charming man, and a railway man through and through. I think his joining will make a very great difference to shareholders on the Grand Trunk railway. At any rate we shall be able to see what the Grand Trunk is capable of, as under his management it will have every chance of redeeming its past unfortunate career. I don't think we must expect too much. I think Mr. Hays's appointment will be of very great benefit to the whole railway interest of Canada, and that the Canadian Pacific will be almost as much benefited by it as the Grand Trunk itself, as I think it will be the signal for a more complete understanding between the two great railways and that absurd competition at break-neck rates to both companies will be avoided, whilst their friendship will be cemented in a manner that could rarely ever have existed as long as the old line Grand Trunk officials were in power with their old time prejudices against a new railway. There is undoubtedly plenty of room for both, as I think that Sir William Van Horne and Mr. Hays will be able to show, and that

without in any way affecting the public and putting up rates. As for the C.P.R., I have never seen in such a flourishing condition or with such a hopeful outlook before it during my connection with the country. From one end of the system to the other, from Halifax to Victoria, a change has come over the scene, and whereas I was met on my return voyage to England in October, 1894, with nothing but grumbling, dissatisfaction and general indications of hard times, this year meeting the same people, I find them well-to-do, and even prosperous. In the East these have been a great improvement in the lumber trade. In Ontario and southern Quebec a large increase in the dairying and cheese manufacture, and the improvement generally of the farmer have told their tale. In Manitoba the farmers are estimated to have nearly as much as an average crop, viz: 9,000,000 bushels, still in hand for sale at the improved prices, and here in British Columbia, though I have not seen and Victoria the signs of prosperity are less visible than elsewhere, I think there can be no doubt whatever that at the end of this year the development of the Mainland will have shown itself here, and a great and general improvement will have come. I trust to stay. I attribute in my own mind the slowness of the return of prosperity to Victoria and Vancouver very largely to the opposition which has been steadily thrown in the face of the C. P. R.

"What has been the effect on Victoria and Vancouver of this? The shareholders and bondholders of the C.P.R. at home in England who had to find the money for that line to extend their trade and business in British Columbia, and to build branches into the mining districts, which would all greatly benefit Vancouver and Victoria, finding in 1894 and 1895 that people here were willing to hand over all the trade to such concerns as the Northern Pacific, which just at that moment by falling into the hands of a receiver had ruined many hundreds of English investors, declined to allow any more of their money to be spent in this province. The opposition in the Dominion parliament to the Crow's Nest Pass railway shows to the world that for the sake of the poorest of their own ends some people have not hesitated to sacrifice the interests of our flag and the interests of this country. You say that all this applies more to Vancouver than to Victoria. I have heard this said before, but I must say that from my point of view, and from the point of view of a man who represents very large sums of money invested in both cities, this appears to me to be the greatest farce and fallacy imaginable. Prosperity in B. C. and increase of trade in the province mean the prosperity both of Vancouver and Victoria, which is to my mind absolutely indubitable. Supposing the Crow's Nest Pass railway was constructed. Supposing that the great wealth of the Kootenay was to come down to Vancouver and Victoria, and the supplies for Kootenay were going up from Vancouver and Victoria, don't you think that your traders and manufacturers here in Victoria would be quite as anxious to send up their supplies to the Interior as the merchants of Vancouver; and don't you think that your town council here would be moving energetically to establish a smelter here, and would be quite as anxious to do so as the town council of Vancouver?

"I remember well in 1894 one of the most eminent smelting men in Great Britain, who was making a tour of inspection here, telling me that Victoria was the ideal site for this portion of the Coast, or those ores which are most necessary for fluxing the Kootenay ores, could be most easily shipped, many of the best ores for this purpose being obtained in Alaska. But Kootenay is not supplying ore for one smelter nor for two smelters, but there will be enough going out of that country to keep twenty large powerful smelters going, and I should expect to see a great friendly competition existing between these two cities, to see which could get most of the trade, and which could do best with it, but not a furious rivalry injurious to both alike and the country at large. Victoria has advantages in the smelting and iron businesses in connection with her coal supplies and shipping trade, which Vancouver has not, and never will have, and Vancouver has advantages on the contrary which Victoria has not. If energy in this country were devoted to bringing this trade, which is going to very largely increase in volume in 1896, to these two cities, and if the people of this country would put their foot down on all these schemes for benefiting other interests, we shall have a state of prosperity which we have never seen before, and I personally shall get satisfactory returns on my Victoria and Vancouver investments.

"What are my interests here? Well, briefly these are these. Outside of certain small private investments, I represent the outlay of from £100,000 to £120,000 in the electric railway systems of both Victoria and Vancouver. We shall this year proceed to replace the steam power by water power, which will largely increase our lighting capacity and will, I hope, enable us to give the cities of Vancouver and Victoria as thorough a railway and day and night lighting service as either Montreal or Toronto can boast of. We have appropriated this year £80,000 to this work, and we have every reason to hope and believe that the best part of it will be accomplished before the next rainy season comes on. My next largest interest here is the Lillooet, Fraser River & Cariboo Gold Fields, Ltd., a company with a capital of £300,000, of which £150,000 has been paid up, and the balance will be forthcoming as and when required.

"Our capital up to the present has mostly been invested in British 2½ per cent. consols, pending the arrival of the proper moment to put it into British Columbia mines, and we have been very fortunate in this connection in the large rise that has taken place in this stock and which enables us to make quite a nice showing even before we commence active mining. The money, however, is now going pretty rapidly into very excellent properties in the Trail Creek camp, and we have properties in Lardeau, Illecillewaet, Lillooet and Cariboo, all of which, with the exception of the Rossland properties, which we have only just acquired a few days ago, we have been developing all winter, and which are mostly looking better than I had really anticipated they would. We have

appropriated some £80,000 or £90,000 to open up these mines and others on which we had bonds and options, as rapidly and as economically as possible, and I hope and believe that long before we have spent it we shall have most satisfactory returns to show, and that by the means of introducing ample capital into this country for the purpose of developing the mining resources. Besides the above enterprises I formed early this year a company with a capital of £106,000 for the purpose of investing in land, buildings, etc., or anything practically not covered by the other companies. But don't anticipate we shall do very much in this connection until the autumn, when we devote all our time and attention to our railway and mining interests for the present.

"What about these attacks which were made on me earlier in the year in connection with our mining company? I really don't know what they have bothered me very seriously, but still I am glad of the opportunity of giving some explanation of them. They seem to divide themselves into two personal attacks upon me, in which my firm and I are described as adventurers, people totally unknown in the old country, and into an attack on our mining enterprises, for which I think I am not in any way responsible. I am not a party to the foundation. Why I have had the honor to incur the displeasure of Mr. Bostock and Mr. Scalfie I have not the slightest idea, but I am prepared to make them a proposal, a challenge, if you like, which I think every fair-minded man in British Columbia will consider a right one, and I rely upon the public of British Columbia to compel Messrs. Bostock and Scalfie to take it up. I am prepared and desirous that every person who cares to take the trouble and who is interested one way or another, should write to my firm's bankers, whose names are the Bank of Scotland, the Consolidated Bank, Barclay, Bevan & Co. and the London and Yorkshire Bank, who are, as every Englishman will tell you, amongst the first twenty or twenty-five banking houses in Great Britain, and an appropriate reply to them will be published in the public press, and undertake to hold the person making these inquiries and publishing these replies indemnified and harmless, and to give them any employment into which my personal and my business character ever since I went into business when a boy as clerk in my present firm's office until now, when I am one of the partners in the firm, and the same guarantee personally that I give on behalf of my firm, and desire the same inquiries made of bankers and others. Now, I ask Messrs. Bostock and Scalfie, who have thought fit to thus attack my enterprises and endeavor to prevent me from raising capital in the Old Country to bring into this country, to be men enough to return produce references to bankers, and their former employers, to whom it will be possible to get information of their former careers. When Englishmen are found travelling about and establishing themselves away from home, although the greater portion of them are generally people who are going to live under the old flag, and help to establish a great England over the ocean, still some of them have left their country for no other reason than to make a fortune for themselves, and it is therefore always well to know with whom we are dealing, and to have full references as to my financial position and otherwise, and before I enter into relations with any one, be it commercial or otherwise, I get the relation of a newspaper controversy, I want to know exactly with whom I am dealing, and I think I am entitled to know. I am totally at a loss to know what has actuated these attacks upon me, unless it is that they want to personally represent the whole of the British capital coming into this country; that they don't want to see cheap money introduced, or wish to see a large amount of the development of the mining resources of the province. Just one word as to particulars. As to the severe criticism they levelled at my speech in September last at the meeting of the Lillooet, Fraser River & Cariboo Gold Fields, Ltd., which they said was to act as a prospectus, I would refer these gentlemen to the records, which show that the whole of the money was subscribed, and that the material was held, and therefore that my speech was not in any way made for the purpose of what is termed trumping up capital. The only sin that Messrs. Bostock and Scalfie are guilty of is that they have the audacity to come to a meeting of the prospects and advantages offered to the investor by this province.

"I am sorry if I have got rather hot over this matter, but it seems to me to have been a mean and cowardly attack on my part, and I should expect to see a reprint from a so-called financial newspaper, which I have known before making such statements, that the financial representative was an undischarged bankrupt, from whom there were at that time two actions pending against the same paper for similar offences, one by North and the other by the Lintotype Company.

"Yes, Mr. Forbes Vernon is one of our company, and his association assisted me materially at the time to obtain our capital. It would be greatly to the advantage of this and other provinces if bona fide enterprises in the old country for the development of such provinces could be assisted by the presence on their directorate of their agents and other public men, as is the case with the South African and West Australian colonies. For instance, the mining companies of West Australia have on their directorates agent generals of that colony, and the great mining companies of South Africa have on their directorates agents of that colony, and the Cape; also, although not mining companies, other concerns for the purpose of developing Queensland and New South Wales are assisted by their directors, and the late Sir Henry Parkes. It is, in fact, a matter of almost daily occurrence in London to find the names of agents for the development of that colony, and it will be a matter of great regret if this is not also the case with this province, as it will be looked upon as a want of confidence in its prospects.

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have been so assiduous in attending public meetings all over the country, from the north to the south, with a view to bringing before boards of trade and other bodies the advantages of his own province, and have been greatly surprised to hear of false and misleading statements to the contrary made here in his absence. I am staying here until Sunday next, and I expect to be up here again in about a fortnight or so, and a very fond of British Columbia and like Victoria, where I have received great kindness and hospitality, and I am glad of the opportunity of letting my friends have an explanation of these attacks and hoping in future to be able to work on in the even tenor of my way."

NEWS OF THE PROVINCE

Mr. E. Hutcherson Liberal-Conservative Candidate for Westminster—Horticultural Association.

Red Mountain Railway Construction Begins at Once—Valuable Discovery Near Marcus.

(Special to the Colonist) VANCOUVER. VANCOUVER, May 6.—Mr. E. Hutcherson was chosen the standard-bearer of the Liberal Conservative party, Vice Mr. Atkinson resigned. The nomination was made on the first ballot. The proposed agreement between the Consolidated Electric Light Co. and the city has been made law. The present bill now in committee to light the city at a much reduced rate.

Rev. G. R. Maxwell's nomination by the Liberal delegates was ratified at a large mass meeting of Liberals last night. The Vancouver board has endorsed the resolution of the Winnipeg Board of Trade praying the government to sanction legislation providing for a rate of 2 cents per ounce on all letters to Canadian and United States points. The Lower Fraser Fruit Growers' Association met to-night at the Guichon. The registrar reports for April: Births 12, marriages 6, deaths 13. The same guarantee personally that I give on behalf of my firm, and desire the same inquiries made of bankers and others. Now, I ask Messrs. Bostock and Scalfie, who have thought fit to thus attack my enterprises and endeavor to prevent me from raising capital in the Old Country to bring into this country, to be men enough to return produce references to bankers, and their former employers, to whom it will be possible to get information of their former careers. When Englishmen are found travelling about and establishing themselves away from home, although the greater portion of them are generally people who are going to live under the old flag, and help to establish a great England over the ocean, still some of them have left their country for no other reason than to make a fortune for themselves, and it is therefore always well to know with whom we are dealing, and to have full references as to my financial position and otherwise, and before I enter into relations with any one, be it commercial or otherwise, I get the relation of a newspaper controversy, I want to know exactly with whom I am dealing, and I think I am entitled to know. I am totally at a loss to know what has actuated these attacks upon me, unless it is that they want to personally represent the whole of the British capital coming into this country; that they don't want to see cheap money introduced, or wish to see a large amount of the development of the mining resources of the province. Just one word as to particulars. As to the severe criticism they levelled at my speech in September last at the meeting of the Lillooet, Fraser River & Cariboo Gold Fields, Ltd., which they said was to act as a prospectus, I would refer these gentlemen to the records, which show that the whole of the money was subscribed, and that the material was held, and therefore that my speech was not in any way made for the purpose of what is termed trumping up capital. The only sin that Messrs. Bostock and Scalfie are guilty of is that they have the audacity to come to a meeting of the prospects and advantages offered to the investor by this province.

WESTMINSTER. WESTMINSTER, May 6.—The Burnaby court of revision will be held in Westminster next Monday.

The season's crop is about sown in the Delta district. The farmers are very hopeful; unusually high water is not anticipated.

ROSSLAND. (From the Rossland Miner.) The Nickel Plate has 300 tons of ore on the dump which will probably average \$60 per ton, giving a total value of \$18,000. The north cross-cut seems to be approaching a vein, as water is very abundant and the face is in a soft, talc-like rock. This property is owned by W. W. McCune, of Salt Lake, and C. G. Griffith, of Spokane, and will shortly be incorporated.

The 30-drill compressor for the Trail Mining Company has been loaded on the cars at Chicago and will be due in Rossland about June 1.

The north cross-cut of the Centre Star which encountered such a fine body of ore last week is being pushed into the ledge about 40 feet ahead. No drifting for the present will be done on the vein cut last week. It is 4 feet wide and the ore runs high in copper, with a very good gold value. Very fine ore continues to be taken from the Iron Mask. It is the highest grade ore in the camp and there is plenty of it. The Le Roi is getting out some very high grade ore from the lower levels. An average of \$80 is claimed for all that is being taken out.

Work on No. 2 tunnel in the War Eagle has been continued steadily. The big ore chute and it is now in the No. 3 break. It will have to be driven 10 or 12 feet to get into the next ore chute. As soon as the new steam hoist arrives a winze will be sunk 200 feet on the big vein. The owners of the Crown Point have resumed work with a force of six men. They are running a drift to the east on the ore body from the 65-foot level.

The W. W. Dines syndicate, of Winnipeg, Man., which recently purchased the Centre Star No. 2 and North Star No. 3, has instructed Reddin & Jackson to begin development work on the property. Work has been begun on the Fool Hen, which adjoins the townsite on the west and lies just north of the Phoenix. The property is under bond to the Barnard syndicate. Two men are driving an open cut into the ledge and they have uncovered a big showing of mineralized vein matter.

Lou Lindsay, Joe Adams and Duncan McMillan came up on Wednesday from their discovery back of the Seven Devils near Marcus. They have been prospecting the group for the past ten days and have made a number of interesting discoveries. The copper vein in which they made the original location is in about the same shape they left it in two weeks ago. This vein runs about due north and south, and shows percentage of copper. Large specimens assay up to 22½ per cent. Cutting this vein they found three parallel ledges of free milling gold quartz. They have done a little surface work on each of these ledges, and on the largest have sunk a shaft about 100 feet deep. This shaft will square 5 feet in the bottom and shows no walls. A general average of the bottom of the shaft went \$7.10 in gold. Assays varied from \$2 to \$14. They will return to the mine in a few days and will then do systematic development work.

D. C. Corbin, president of the Spokane Falls & Northern railroad, was in North Bay on Wednesday making arrangements for the early commencement of work on the Columbia & Red Mountain railroad. It was his intention to visit Rossland, but as he was not feeling well he will return to Spokane.

If you once try Carter's Little Liver Pills for sick headache, biliousness or constipation, you will never be without them. They are hardy, reliable, and easy to take. Don't forget this.

ASKED FOR. It is the best recommendation any goods can have. "Reindeer Brand" Condensed Milk. IS IN CONSTANT DEMAND FROM ALL PARTS OF THE COUNTRY, AND ITS SALE IS STEADILY INCREASING.

SUMMER SUITS. \$5.00, \$6.00, \$7.75, \$10.00. The Best Make. Lowest Prices. B. WILLIAMS & CO., Clothiers and Hatters, 97 Johnson Street.

The Occidental Hotel, Corner Wharf and Johnson Streets, Victoria. THIS popular and well known Hotel was re-opened on November 15, under the management of Wm. Jensen, its founder, with everything new and bright. It will be conducted as of former years, aiming to make it homelike for guests.

ALEXANDRA CREAM SEPARATORS, SPRAY PUMPS, PLOWS, HARROWS, SEED DRILLS, FARM AND SPRING WAGONS, BUGGIES AND CARTS, HARDWARE, IRON AND STEEL, MILL AND MINING SUPPLIES, LOGGERS' SUPPLIES. FOR SALE BY E. C. PRIOR & CO., LTD. Victoria, Vancouver and Kamloops.

OUR 1896 STOCK. Lawn Tennis Rackets, Ayres' Lawn Tennis Balls, Spalding's Baseball Goods, Lacrosse Sticks. Are now in and are being offered at prices to meet the times. Also New Atlas Showing Africa to Date, War Maps of Egypt and Soudan, Price 10 Cents.

T. N. Hibben & Co. VICTORIA Roller Flour Mill. VICTORIA, B.C. BEST FAMILY FLOUR, XXX Brand. SUPERFINE FLOUR, WHOLE WHEAT MEAL, Recommended by the Medical Profession. GRAHAM FLOUR, SELF-RAISING FLOUR, Prepared on Scientific Chemical Principles, and no deleterious substances used in its manufacture. No Baking Powder, Yeast or Salt required. GROUND FEED, BRAN, SHORTS, ETC. RICE MEAL AND CHIT RICE.

WINNIPEG WIRINGS. WINNIPEG, May 5. (Special) —The Manitoba Conservative convention opens on Friday morning. Word has been received from all sections of the province and territories intimating that delegates will be sent to the convention. The Earl and Countess Spencer have arrived from the West and are spending the day here before proceeding to Niagara Falls. W. D. Leseuer, secretary of the post office department, Ottawa, is here en route to British Columbia on official business. E. C. Friess, U. S. Consular Agent at Rat Portage, was married here to-day to Miss Helen McQueen of Vancouver. MONTREAL, May 2.—It is rumored today that Hon. Mr. Oulmont may be called upon by Lieut.-Governor Chapleau to form a cabinet at Quebec. When the hair has fallen out, leaving the head bald, if the scalp is not shiny, there is a chance of regaining the hair by using Hall's Hair Renewer. Will be found an excellent remedy for sick headache, biliousness or constipation, you will never be without them. They are hardy, reliable, and easy to take. Don't forget this.

WANTED—Trustworthy men and women to advocate a popular cause at home. \$40.00 to \$60.00 monthly to suitable person. Address Drawer 29, Brantford, Ont. WANTED—Young or middle aged men of character. Hundreds foremost in Canada, started with us. About \$1400 a week to begin with. The Bradley-Garrison Co. Ltd., Toronto, Ont.

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